

EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS

BRAUGHING RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

including report of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1972

AUGUST 1973

BRIDGEFOOT HOUSE,
BUNTINGFORD, HERTS.

BRAUCHING RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report on the Health of the District for the Year 1972

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EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1972

Braughing Rural District

PREFACE

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the Rural District of Braughing for the year ended 31 December 1972.

The general health of the area, as expressed by ages at death and the reported communicable diseases, remains excellent.

But even in this small area, seven young people under 55 died from causes that are to a greater or lesser extent preventable. Motor accidents, suicide and self-inflicted injuries are not inevitable. Coronary heart disease is associated with over smoking, being overweight, working to exhaustion and under-exercise. Diet and genetics also play a part. These deaths can mainly be prevented by individual effort. The community can only play a lesser part, as by improving "Black Spots" on roads, and by informing young drivers that they are particularly at risk.

An annual report can only be written after Regional and National figures are available. Normally, these come in during late April or May. Since my position as Medical Officer of Health ends in April 1974, this may be the last report I write for you.

Whether or not the "proper officer" writes a report in the future is still under debate. Much of this report is routine and often thought a waste of time to write or read, and a waste of money to publish.

However, I think the idea that an unbiased, trained observer should perform an annual medical audit on reported deaths and disease is sound. There are many examples in history where a failure to provide an effective audit led to an unhealthy practice continuing. At a time when population is increasing, pollution is a constant hazard and air traffic is carrying disease rapidly over national boundaries, I think it would be a mistake to stop this routine reporting.

I wish to thank Mr. Reed for the help he has given in the past year, also Miss Kent and now Mrs. Gutteridge for their secretarial help.

I am grateful to the other Chief Officers for their help. I thank the Chairman and Members for their interest.

Lastly, may I say that I have thoroughly enjoyed being your Medical Officer of Health.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN EARLE



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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT - STAFFMEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

John V. Earle, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H., D.I.H., M.F.C.M.
Medical Officer of Health

Eric Howarth, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.,
Deputy Medical Officer of Health

East Herts Combined Districts:

Council Offices,
High Street,
Hoddesdon,
Hertfordshire.
Tel: Hoddesdon 68331

Chief Public Health Inspector

P. E. L. Reed, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Clerical duties in the Public Health
Department were carried out by Miss D.Kent

Public Health Department:

Bridgefoot House,
Buntingford,
Hertfordshire.
Tel: Royston 71315

PUBLIC HEALTH MATTERS WERE DEALT WITH BY THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

The Finance and General Purposes Committee for the year 1972/3 was composed of the following Members:

Chairman: Mr. H. Harvey

Vice-Chairman: Mrs. J. A. P.
Boyd-Carpender

Mr. A. Anderson	Mr. L. A. C. Holmer	Mr. G. K. St. Aubyn
Capt. C. G. Barclay	Mr. L. C. Holmans	Mr. S. E. Thody
Mr. H. C. Beddington	Mr. E. W. Huson	Mr. J. M. Tulloch
Mr. E. Howard Carter	Mrs. B. P. Lyon	Mr. A. Vandone
Mrs. M. L. Cocksedge	Mr. W. S. Pimblett	



S E C T I O N "A"

TABLE 1

(Figures for 1971 shown in brackets)

POPULATION

Estimated Mid-Year Population of Braughing Rural District:

(12,560)	12,960
----------	--------

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	45,570
---------------	--------

Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Books:

(4,173)	4,261
---------	-------

Number of houses per acre	0.107
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Number of persons per acre	0.355
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Number of persons per house	3.04
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<u>Rateable Value of District</u>	£575,203
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Sum Represented by a New Penny Rate	£5,563
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VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>Braughing</u> <u>R.D.</u>	<u>Hertford</u> <u>County</u>	<u>England</u> <u>& Wales</u>
<u>LIVE BIRTH RATES ETC.</u>			
Livebirths per 1,000 home population (crude rate)	18.7	14.3	14.8
Area Comparability factor	0.94	0.98	1.00
Local adjusted rate	17.6	14.0	14.8
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	1.19		1.00
Illegitimate live births as percentage of all live births.			
<u>STILLBIRTH RATE</u>			
Stillbirths per 1,000 total live and still births	4.0	11.8	12.0
<u>INFANT MORTALITY RATES</u>			
Deaths under 1 year per 1,000	-	13.4	17.0
Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate live births	-	12.8	17.0
Deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-	22.4	21.0
<u>Neonatal Mortality Rate</u>			
Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births	-	9.1	12.0
<u>Early neonatal mortality rate</u>			
Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births	-	8.0	10.0
<u>Perinatal Mortality rate</u>			
Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	4.0	19.6	22.0

VITAL STATISTICS

		<u>Local Authority Area</u>			<u>England and</u>
		<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Wales (Total)</u>
Estimated mid-year home population				12,960	49,028,900
<hr/>					
Live Births	Total	108	134	242	725,405
	Legitimate	106	127	233	662,907
	Illegitimate	2	7	9	62,498
<hr/>					
Stillbirths	Total	1	-	1	8,794
	Legitimate	-	-	-	7,846
	Illegitimate	1	-	1	948
<hr/>					
Total live and stillbirths	Total	109	134	243	734,199
	Legitimate	106	127	233	670,753
	Illegitimate	3	7	10	63,446
<hr/>					
Deaths of Infants					
Under 1 year of age	Total	-	-	-	12,494
	Legitimate	-	-	-	11,177
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	1,317
.....					
Under 4 weeks of age	Total	-	-	-	8,373
	Legitimate	-	-	-	7,503
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	870
.....					
Under 1 week of age	Total	-	-	-	7,142
	Legitimate	-	-	-	6,365
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	777
<hr/>					
Deaths - all ages		62	59	121	591,907
<hr/>					

VITAL STATISTICS (Continued)

	<u>Braughing</u> <u>R.D.</u>	<u>Hertford</u> <u>County</u>	<u>England</u> <u>& Wales</u>
<u>DEATH RATES ETC. - ALL AGES</u>			
Deaths per 1,000 home population (crude rate)	9.3	9.5	12.1
Area Comparability factor	1.14	1.11	1.0
Local adjusted rate	10.6	10.5	12.1
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	0.83		1.00
<hr/>			
<u>MATERNAL DEATH RATE</u>			
Maternal deaths including abortions	-	-	111
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	-	-	0.15

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)
notified during year

Disease	Total all ages for the year	Under 1	1-	5-	15-	25-	Over 65	Not Known
Scarlet Fever	3	-	2	1	-	-	-	-
Measles	53	1	17	32	-	1	-	-
Whooping Cough	14	-	4	10	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Infective Jaundice	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-

INCIDENCE OF DISEASE DURING THE DIFFERENT MONTHS

	First Quarter Jan/Feb/March			Second Quarter April/May/June			Third Quarter July/Aug/Sept			Fourth Quarter Oct/Nov/Dec		
Scarlet Fever	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	2	1	5	42
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	2	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Infective Jaundice	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS DURING 1972

Tuberculosis New cases only	Total all ages	Under 5	5-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 and over	Age not known
Respiratory	2	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Meninges & C.N.S.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Tuberculosis - All cases		Total	Males		Females	
			P	NP	P	NP
Cases on Register on 31 December 1971		19	7	2	5	5
Cases added to Register	New cases	2	-	-	2	-
	Inward Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
	Restored to Register	-	-	-	-	-
Cases removed from Register	Deaths	-	-	-	-	-
	Outward Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
	Patients cured	-	-	-	-	-
Cases remaining on Register 31 December 1971		21	7	2	7	5

CAUSES OF DEATHS DURING THE YEAR 1972

	M	F
ALL CAUSES	62	59
Malignant Neoplasms - Stomach	2	2
Intestine	1	2
Lung, Bronchus	10	3
Breast	-	3
Leukaemia	-	3
Other Malignant Neoplasms	3	7
Diabetes Mellitus	-	1
Anaemias	1	-
Other Diseases of Nervous System	-	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	-
Hypertensive Disease	-	4
Ischaemic Heart Disease	12	7
Other Forms of Heart Disease	4	1
Cerebrovascular Disease	5	6
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	5	3
Influenza	-	1
Pneumonia	3	6
Bronchitis and Emphysema	3	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	2	2
Other Diseases of Digestive System	-	1
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	2	2
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	1	1
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	3	-
Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	-
All Other Accidents	-	1
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	1	1
(a) Still Births	1	-
(b) Deaths of infants under four weeks of age	-	-
(c) Deaths of infants under one year of age	-	-
(d) Deaths of infants under one week of age	-	-

General Statistics

The estimated population for mid-year 1972 was 12,960. This is given by the General Register Officer. It represents an increase of 400 over the previous year. Births exceed deaths by 122. The remainder represents migration into the area.

The number of inhabited houses rose to 4,261.

Vital statistics and causes of death

Broadly speaking, the birth rates and death rates are similar to those that occur nationally. Of the 121 deaths, over half occurred over the age of 75, and almost another third were aged 65-75.

Of those who died younger, three died in road traffic accidents. Death due to lung cancer is unpleasant at any age. Thirteen people died due to this cause. Five were under 65. Two young people died from heart disease.

Communicable diseases

Very few were reported during the course of the year.

Venereal disease is one of the commonest communicable diseases in the country. Local figures, particularly in the Hone Counties, are always likely to be wrong, for many patients go to London for treatment. It is not well known that a woman can be infected and carry one (or more) of this group of diseases and be quite free of symptoms and unaware that anything is wrong.

As a step in encouraging people to seek check-ups if in doubt, a telephone answering machine is now installed in Hoddesdon. The number is Hoddesdon 66151. The message gives advice on the action to be taken if a patient is in doubt, and the clinic times of Bishop's Stortford Hospital and the telephone number.

Tuberculosis

There is an increase of two on the Register. This condition is much less frequent than in the past, but it can and does still occur.

Old People's welfare

There is no doubt that warden-assisted bungalows are very beneficial. They allow people to live in their own homes in greater security and for longer than they might and without the supervision of a warden.

In this area there is a shortage of staff for geriatric hospital beds. This increases the importance of keeping old people fit and in the community.

National Assistance Acts. Section 47

No action was required during the year.

Meals on Wheels

These were served at Buntingford, High Wych, Much Hadham and Thorley.

Building

During the year 33 buildings were erected by private enterprise.

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FORBRAUGHING RURAL DISTRICTLABORATORY SERVICE

Laboratory facilities are provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Cambridge.

In an emergency medical specimens may be examined at the Laboratory of the Hertford County Hospital, Hertford or the Herts and Essex General Hospital, Bishop's Stortford.

COUNTY HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICESImmunisation and Vaccination

<u>Approx. Age</u>	<u>Vaccine</u>
6 months	COMBINED diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
8 months	COMBINED diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
13 months	COMBINED diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
15 months	MEASLES
School entry	POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL) COMBINED diphtheria, tetanus
13 years	B.C.G. Vaccination against TUBERCULOSIS

Vaccination against RUBELLA (German Measles) is offered to those girls who have not already had this disease.

This is NOT a rigid time-table. Many Doctors hold slightly differing views, and prematurity or ill-health in a child may mean the schedule has to be altered to meet individual needs.

Vaccination of infants can still be done, at the parents request, either in an Infant Welfare Clinic or by the child's general practitioner.

As far as the routine immunisation of children is concerned, birth notification of children in the County is processed by computer. In consequence, it is possible to send out an appointment for every child to attend a Clinic or its own Doctor for immunisations as they have become due. This scheme was introduced in East Hertfordshire in January 1968, and has produced a high degree of immunity in the child population.

It must be borne in mind that a traveller entering certain countries must produce an International Certificate of Vaccination against Smallpox, Yellow Fever and Cholera. International Certificates should be procured from the travel agency when the intending traveller makes his booking.

Vaccination of adults is done by the patient's own Doctor, who must enter on the certificate particulars of the vaccine employed. The Doctor's signature must then be authenticated at the local - not the County - Health Department, which holds facsimiles of all signatures of Doctors in the district.

A valid certificate of vaccination cannot be given after a first (primary) vaccination until it is seen that the vaccination has "taken". This is usually eight days after successful vaccination.

A valid certificate can be given immediately after re-vaccination.

Travellers have repeated personal and financial difficulties caused by the lack of a valid certificate.

Immunisation against Yellow Fever must be carried out at one of the following centres, after an appointment is first made by telephone:

Yellow Fever Vaccination Service,
Hospital for Tropical Diseases,
4 St. Pancras Way,
London NW1.

Tel: 01-387 4411 Ext. 137

Monday - Friday mornings

Yellow Fever Vaccination Service,
Medical Department,
Unilever House,
Blackfriars,
London EC4

Tel: 01-353 7474 Ext. 2841

Tuesday and Friday 3.45 p.m.

Yellow Fever Vaccination Service,
53 Great Cumberland Place,
London W1

Tel: 01-262 6456

Monday - Friday 9.30 - 10.30 a.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
1.30 - 2.30 p.m.

Protection against Cholera may be obtained from the traveller's own Doctor and is advisable for persons undertaking journeys in the Middle or Far East. Advice may be obtained from the Embassy or Mission of the country concerned. Cholera still occurs in Mediterranean countries and hence cases occur in England. Immunisation gives some protection, but the real protection lies in drinking only clean or boiled water.

Yellow Fever has an incubation period of six days. Protection becomes valid ten days after immunisation and lasts ten years.

Typhoid Fever occurs in some countries and may be contracted by travellers in Mediterranean areas. Anyone proposing to spend holidays in such regions ought, for their own sakes and for the sake of others, to seek protection from T.A.B. Immunisation. This should not be left to the last moment. The interval between the first and second doses should be at least four weeks and preferably six weeks, it takes this time for immunity to develop fully.

Home Help Service

Applications for this Service should be made to Mrs. Cooper, Home Help Organiser at The Health Centre, Market Square, Bishop's Stortford. Telephone Bishop's Stortford 59305. Hours 8.30 - 1.00, 1.30 - 5.00 p.m. The Home Help Service is constantly needing more help. Any person anxious to be of assistance to either old and infirm people or young mothers with children, should apply to Mrs. Cooper.

SOCIAL SERVICES

The following are details of available services in the area:

Divisional Social Services Officer
Miss M. Copleston
Mr. Antony Stuteley (from July 1973)

Westfield,
West Street,
Hertford.
Tel: Hertford 7041

Assistant Divisional Social Services Officer

"

Mr. H. W. Scott

Senior Social Worker
Mrs. A. Stroud

Social Services Department,
The Lodge,
Market Square,
Bishop's Stortford.
Tel: Bishop's Stortford 57253

Social Workers

"

Miss P. Buckley
Mr. T. Smith
Mrs. M. Hewish - part time
Mrs. P. Perrin

I am grateful to Mr. Stuteley for his help in updating this list.

HOSPITAL SERVICES

The Area is served chiefly by the County Hospital, Hertford, the Herts and Essex Hospital, Bishop's Stortford, the Lister Hospital, Hitchin, and the Harlow Hospital.

Chronic sick and elderly can receive treatment at Western House Hospital, Collett Road, Ware. It is now an all female hospital of 91 beds. 47 of these are psycho-geriatric, and Part III Accommodation still takes 190 persons.

Patients suffering from infectious diseases can be treated either at St. Ann's Hospital, Tottenham (Tel: 01-800 0121) or Highlands Hospital, Winchmore Hill, London N.21 (formerly South Lodge Hospital, World's End Lane, London N.21) Tel: 01-360 8151.

GENERAL PRACTITIONER MEDICAL SERVICES

Braughing Rural District is served by six General Practitioners, all of whom work in partnerships. To these are attached four Health Visitors/District Nurses/Midwives, one Nurse/Midwife, and one Nurse, a scheme which has been in operation some years. The attachments are proving very successful.

DENTAL SERVICE

There is one Dental Surgeon in practice in Buntingford. The District is also served by Dental Surgeons in adjoining localities.

OTHER SERVICES

There is a Club for Old People at Buntingford, and also at Braughing, Little Hadham and Much Hadham.

Women's Institutes are active at fifteen centres in the District.

A voluntary organisation called BASH (Buntingford Action for Social Help) was formed in October 1970 to combine a number of existing voluntary organisations:

St. Peter's Adults
St. Peter's Tregs

Ward Freeman School and
Buntingford Youth Club

Its Committee include the Medical Profession and a wide range of people of the community whose aims are to visit and aid the old and to help with shopping, house decorating etc., and to provide transport where needed. It provides regular Playgroups for mothers and young children and a weekly coffee morning.

CARE AND AFTER CARE

Applications for recuperative holidays, if recommended by the Medical Attendant, should be made to the County Medical Officer.

Equipment can be issued on loan to patients being nursed at home. Medical Loan Depots have been established at Braughing, Buntingford and Much Hadham. A charge may be made for both of the services.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

There are Ambulance Stations at Hertford, Buntingford, Bishop's Stortford and Ware. Except in an emergency an ambulance should be ordered by a Medical Practitioner.

DAY NURSERIES

There are no Day Nurseries in the Braughing Rural District. There are three part-time Nursery Schools in Buntingford; one at The Ward Freeman School, a service provided by the school staff and pupils as extra curricula activities one morning a week; one at the Congregational Church Schoolroom; and the Jack and Jill Play Group.

There is a play group at Cottered.

So far as I am aware, there is no overall register of voluntary bodies or activities. Many might demur if they were asked to register.

As a consequence, it is extremely difficult to detail them all. Any errors and omissions are regretted.

S E C T I O N "C"

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA
REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1972

Dear Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1972.

In the following pages of the Report I have outlined the work done, and given a resume of the Sanitary Circumstances of the Area. Section "D" contains the Statistical Returns concerning the Factories Acts.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

P. E. L. Reed
M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE DURING 1972

Total inspections recorded	888
<u>Housing</u>	
Housing inspections	49
Housing re-visits	106
Tenancy selection	187
Housing Welfare	90
Council garage lettings and survey	15
<u>Food and Food Premises</u>	
Premises inspected, including re-visits	53
Licensed premises inspected	13
Meat inspections	74
Slaughterhouse inspections	2
Unsound food	-
Imported Food Regulations	3
<u>Water Supply</u>	
Inspections and sampling visits	80
<u>Infectious Diseases</u>	
Visits and investigations	12
<u>General Sanitation</u>	
Complaints	57
Drainage	52
Caravans	10
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	5
Factories	11
Pest Control	28
Petroleum Act	22
Animal Boarding Establishments	1

HOUSINGNew Buildings

During 1972 houses built by Private Enterprise totalled 33.

Council Housing

The construction of six bungalows at Anstey was completed during the year, and work was in progress on the erection of twelve flats at Hormead. Following the submission of a further detailed analysis of current applications for housing and consideration of the then programme for building, the Housing Committee agreed the following future programme:

Aspenden	4 units of small accommodation
Albury	6 units of small accommodation
Ardeley	4 units of small accommodation
Brent Pelham	4 units of small accommodation
Braughing	20 Warden serviced units of small accommodation
	8 two-bedroomed flats
Buckland	6 units of small accommodation
Buntingford	35 units of small accommodation
	48 units of general need housing
Cottered	12 two-bedroomed flats
Furneux Pelham	6 one-bedroomed flats
	6 two-bedroomed flats
	3 three-bedroomed houses
High Wych	15 old persons' one bedroomed flatlets
	and Warden accommodation including welfare facilities.
	9 three-bedroomed terraced houses
	22 semi-detached three bedroomed houses
Little Hadham	6 units of small accommodation
Much Hadham	24 units of small accommodation
	8 units of general need housing
Thorley	4 units of small accommodation

Unfit Houses

A further three houses were Represented to the Council during the year. Four families were rehoused from condemned houses and six properties, in respect of which undertakings had been given, were made fit.

Improvement and Standard Grants

This potentially important aspect of improving the standard of cottage properties in the Area continued to be dealt with by the Surveyor and his staff.

During the year a total of 38 applications were received and 31 Improvement (Discretionary) and 7 Standard Grants were approved, involving 43 dwellings.

Qualification Certificates

During the year a total of 15 applications were received, 4 of which were approved, and 7 refused.

Allocation of Council Housing Accommodation

The Waiting Lists of Applications for Council accommodation continued to be maintained by the Department. Inspections are made to ascertain the housing needs of applicants so that full information is available to the Housing Committee, who select tenants as tenancies become available.

The programme of providing this accommodation is referred to on the previous page.

Warden-controlled Bungalows

At Buntingford and Much Hadham the Council have small groups of bungalows and at each of these two sites there is a resident Warden, and close liaison with the Wardens continued.

There is no doubt that the availability of the Warden to answer emergency bell calls and the day to day help given with shopping, telephone calls, fetching medicines etc. is appreciated by the tenants and it is pleasing to note that at both sites the Wardens have arranged regular social gatherings for those who wish to take part.

FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

Routine inspections under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1970 were continued, but no formal action was found necessary.

Food premises in the district comprised:

Bakchouses	1
Bakers and Cake Shops	1
Butchers	6
Fish shops	2
Cafes	3
Distribution Depots	2
Grocers	18
Greengrocers	5
Sweets and Confectioners	6
	<hr/> 44
Licensed Premises	38

Meat Inspection

There is one slaughterhouse in the District and all animals slaughtered there are inspected

	Cattle (not Cows)	Sheep	Pigs	Calves
Animals killed	195	739	-	-
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	10	8	-	-

No carcass or part thereof was condemned for tuberculosis.

No cases of cysticercosis were found.

A sum of £70.02 was recovered from slaughterhouse operators by way of charges for meat inspection.

Unsound Food

The following was surrendered voluntarily as unfit for human consumption.

	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Cwt</u>	<u>Lbs</u>
Meat at Distribution Depot	1	16	10
Offal at Slaughterhouses		1	78
Canned Meats		13	26
	<u>2</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>2</u>

WATER SUPPLY

The mains water supply in the District is provided by the Lee Valley Water Company. During the year the Company reported that 220 bacteriological and 9 chemical water samples were taken from within the District, and all of these were satisfactory.

There are 44 wells in use in the District and they supply 104 houses.

Routine bacteriological samples of these well supplies are undertaken, and 34 gave satisfactory results, whilst 8 were unsatisfactory.

Most unsatisfactory results were attributable to storage tanks that were in need of thorough cleansing and sterilisation, but there are a few supplies (mostly shallow wells) which are liable to yield poor results at any time, and in these cases the users of the water are advised to always boil it before drinking and preparing uncooked foodstuffs etc. One shallow well was replaced with a new deep bore well following informal action.

Type of Water Supply - 31st December 1972

Parish	Houses supplied from mains	Wells in use	Houses supplied from wells
Albury	180	-	-
Anstey	102	4	5
Ardeley	133	3	6
Aspenden	81	1	1
Braughing	365	5	22
Brent Pelham	62	-	-
Buckland	106	-	-
Buntingford	1,351	2	2
Cottered	186	2	4
Furneux Pelham	149	1	5
High Wych	174	9	17
Hornead	230	-	-
Little Hadham	325	4	11
Meesdon	42	-	-
Much Hadham	577	4	13
Stocking Pelham	45	-	-
Thorley	97	2	2
Westmill	79	7	16
Wyddial	35	-	-
TOTAL	4,321	44	104

GENERAL SANITATIONComplaints

A total of 24 complaints were received and each was investigated and in 5 cases the complaints were unfounded or warranted no action.

Summary of complaints dealt with:-

Deposits of Rubbish	3
Drainage defects	8
Housing defects	2
Noise	2
Rodents and other pests	3
Smoke and effluvia	6

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963

There are 38 premises registered under this Act, and 5 routine inspections were made. Any newly registered premises are inspected and the owner notified of any contraventions found. Few routine inspections were made during the year as in 1971 few unsatisfactory premises were found during the course of inspections made.

Pest Control

This work is carried out by a private contractor on behalf of the Council, and matters referred to him were dealt with satisfactorily. Once more rat infestations were particularly heavy in the last quarter of the year; 185 reports of rats in and around domestic premises were received and 30 requests for eradication of mice were dealt with.

Night Soil Collection

Weekly collection continued to be made, by Council's men, from 36 properties, this service included all unmodernised Council houses.

Few additional requests for the service have been received from private householders.

Sewage Disposal

Eleven of the nineteen parishes in the District are served by main sewerage and due to the national economic situation etc., no further schemes were undertaken for the remaining small parishes during the year.

Cesspools are emptied free of charge twice per year where the main sewer is not available to residential properties.

Refuse Collection

A weekly collection of house refuse is made and this service is organised by the Council's Surveyor.

Tipping of refuse from this area and Bishop's Stortford Urban District is carried out at Hadham Towers, Much Hadham. This tip is controlled by Bishop's Stortford Urban District Council, and refuse from Braughing Rural District is disposed of there by agreement.

Animal Boarding Establishments

There are six premises in the District registered under the Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963, for the boarding of dogs and cats. Each of the premises registered was inspected and found to be satisfactory.

S E C T I O N "D"

FACTORIES ACTS - SUMMARY OF RETURNS
REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1972

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Prescribed particulars on the Administration of Factories Act, 1961.

Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health
(including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	No. of Written Notices	No. of Occupiers Prosecuted
i. Factories in which S.1,2,3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	2	-	-	-
ii. Factories not included in(i) in which S.7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	25	11	-	-
iii. Other premises in which S.7 is enforced by the Local Authority. (Excluding outworkers premises)	-	-	-	-
	27	11	-	-

FACTORIES ACT, 1961Prescribed particulars on the Administration of Factories Act, 19612. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by I.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors(S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
a.Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
b.Unsuitable or defective	3	3	-	-	-
c.Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act(not including offences relating to Outworkers)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	3	3	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACTOutworkSections 133 and 134

Nature of work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of Outworkers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel	2	-	-	-	-	-



